TEXAS AR(HITE(T

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

FULL PROGRAM AT AIA CONVENTION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

STAYTON NUNN NAMED FAIA

PUBLICATION BOARD REPORTS

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JUNE 1 9 5 2



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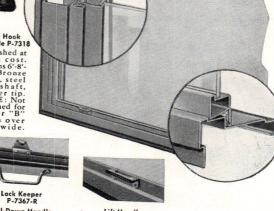


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VOLUME 3

JUNE, 1952

NUMBER 2

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The Texas Regional District Organization of The American Institute of Architects

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 24-27—84th Annual Convention of the AIA, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City.

July 19—Board meeting, TSA, Austin.

October 29-31—13th Annual Convention of the Texas Society of Architects, El Paso.

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ASK THEM BEFORE THEY'RE ELECTED

The Central Texas Chapter reports that candidates for the State Senate were invited to a recent meeting, and then queried on their position in regard to legislation affecting Texas architects.

This is the type of meeting which we have recommended previously, for many reasons. First, it bespeaks concern over the caliber of our state legislators, which is in itself good citizenship. Second, it is good business and an excellent means of saving the state and the architectural profession from the bungling inherent in poor representation. Third, it is simply good horse sense. Not only the architects, but virtually every citizen has been guilty of sheer negligence in regard to our local, state, and federal governments. As a result, we find ourselves in a continuing emergency, beset by controls and increasing taxes, unable to turn a hand without running into the government.

The solution seems to be based on at least one basic principle: having individuals and organized groups bestir themselves to direct action. Perhaps we will not have to return to the Colonial custom of making each citizen serve his turn in a township or governmental job, although that extreme might be necessary in order to restore the moral fibre that is lacking. But certainly we must have more of the spirit that brought hundreds of voters to some precinct conventions last month that had been attended heretofore by a handful.

We must remember one thing in all the new, and welcome, furore over the responsibilities of citizenship. That is, to remain constructive. For every official caught with his hand in the cookie jar, there are hundreds of local, state, and federal workers of sincere purpose. Many of them are just as disgusted as you are with the current state of affairs. They will be needed, now and later, to carry on a properly-functioning government weaned from Socialism and pruned of deadwood. If you criticize, therefore, make your remarks specific and point them toward constructive betterment. When you act, do so on the basis of a sincere attempt to improve the situation in government instead of denouncing everyone and everything in sight.

Asking the men who seek to represent you how they stand on important matters is action toward constructive betterment. We hope that every Chapter in TSA will find time in the next month to hold a meeting with some of the candidates from their own area.

Ask them where they stand before they're elected. It's good citizenship, good business, and good sense.



At Fort Worth, President Herbert M. Tatum, right, pins the gold lapel craftsmanship award on winner Carl G. Carlsen, left. The onlooker is William Collier, Jr. of Abilene, president, Fort Worth Chapter.

—Photo courtesy Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Fort Worth Chapter Wins Acclaim For Craftsmanship Award

The annual craftsmanship award of the Fort Worth Chapter, originated in 1948, was made to a 66-year-old carpenter May 20 in a ceremony which won editorial attention and wide acclaim for the Chapter.

Carl G. Carlson, a native of Sweden who came to Texas 61 years ago as a child, received the craftsmanship award after 42 years as a carpenter. In an editorial the following day, the Fort Worth STAR-TELEGRAM commented:

Editorial Comment

"The Fort Worth Chapter, American Institute of Architects, has bestowed its craftsmanship award this year upon a carpenter of 42 years' experience in building. Mr. Carlson, at a dinner in his honor Tuesday night, explained that his

ambition had been to be a good craftsman and that he still aspired to become a better one. The strength of a nation rests upon authentic citizens of Mr. Carlson's type whose skill has a place in a mechanized age of mass production. The machine has not eliminated the need for handcraftsmen by any means."

The presentation at the dinner was by Herbert M. Tatum, president, TSA, who emphasized that true craftsmanship cannot be replaced. Hubert Hammond Crane of Fort Worth was toastmaster. Edward L. Wilson of Fort Worth pointed out that the craftsmanship award, originated by the TSA chapter there, is being adopted by other chapters.

William Collier, Jr. of Abilene, chapter president, presided.

Executive Committee TSA In Session At Dallas

Names Group To Meet With State Board of Education; Charles Granger Appointed Seminar Chairman; Charter For New Brazos Chapter Approved

In a meeting at Dallas May 10, the newly-formed executive committee named a four-man group to meet with the State Board of Education on problems in connection with the physical plant of the State School for the Deaf, appointed Charles Granger of Austin chairman of the seminar committee, concurred in AIA granting of a charter to the new Brazos Chapter, and recommended that TSA become an incorporated society.

The committee voted to hold the next session of the executive board July 19 in Austin.

Six Members Present

Six members of the executive committee were present at the Dallas session, which handled an unusual amount of business with dispatch. Those in attendance: Herbert M. Tatum, president, TSA; Edward L. Wilson, regional director, AIA; Arthur Fehr, director, Austin chapter; Leroy Buttrill, chairman, School Plant Study Committee; Donald S. Nelson, chairman, Education Committee; and A. B. Swank, Jr., convention representative, TSA.

Members of the committee to consult and advise with the State Board of Education on problems in connection with th physical plant of the State School for the Deaf and to "make such recommendations as it deems advisable concerning the rehabilitation of the buildings" are Mr. Fehr, Thomas Broad, Dallas; Bartlett Cocke, San Antonio; and R. P. DeWitt, Dallas. The committee will point out that such services should be obtained on a monetary basis, but because funds are not available for the employment of a private architect, TSA will undertake the survey and the making of recommendations as a public service to the state.

Mr. Granger will name seminar committee members who are to assist him in studying the seminar subject "Structural Resources For Architectural Design".

The recommendation for incorporation is being made to the membership through the executive board.

New Brazos Chapter

Concurrence in AIA action toward granting a charter for the Brazos Chapter is one of the final steps in getting the new affiliate, in the mid-state area centering around Bryan, under way. Organization is expected to proceed quickly.

Other committee action: Delegated all responsibility in connection with the student competition to the Education Committee, including the naming of the jury and handling of all details. Made the organization, arrangements, and details of holding student convention the responsibility of student chapters, after approving the convention in principle. Asked President Tatum to write each school for a report on the status of competition work.

New Mexico AIA Invited

The committee will recommend to the executive board that student competition winners be given a free banquet ticket at the El Paso convention and be asked to attend business sessions. All New Mexico members of the AIA will be invited to attend the convention as paying guests.

A resolution, printed in full in this issue of the TEXAS ARCHITECT, was passed in tribute to the late Wiley Clarkson.

Representatives of TSA on the Texas Construction Council are to be instructed to inform the Council that TSA members are not in favor of the preparation of any (Continued on Page 20)

Full Calendar In Prospect At AIA Convention

TSA delegates to the AIA convention in New York City June 23-27 will face a schedule jam-packed with business and technical sessions and social and special events. The meeting, first in New York since 1925, is arranged so that business sessions occupy the mornings, and the remainder of the day and evenings are free for other activity.

Six Major Speakers

Major speakers will develop the theme, "Structural Resources For Architectural Design". They include Roger Corbetts of New York, "Precast Structural Systems"; O'Neil Ford, San Antonio, the "lift-slab" system which he employed in buildings at Trinity University; Prof. M. J. Holley of MIT, "Pre-Stressed Concrete"; C. S. Whitney of New York, "Shell Structures"; Henry L. Wright, Los Angeles, "Conservation In School Buildings"; and William H. Scheik, Washington, D. C., "Government Specifications Problems and Codes".

Luncheon meetings will feature an address by a national industrialist on Tuesday, June 24, and Thursday, June 26. The Gold Medalist, Auguste Perret of France, is to speak at the June 26 dinner on reinforced concrete design. The closing address, Friday morning, June 27, will be by Hugh Ferriss, speaking on "The Architect And Improvement of American Cities".

Seminar Subjects Listed

Technical seminar subjects will be prestressed concrete; thin-shell vault and dome construction; pre-fabricated structural unit construction in concrete; reinforced brick masonry; aluminum as a structural frame material; and trends in structural design theory applied to reinforced concrete and steel.

More than 60 manufacturers will exhibit products in cooperation with the Producers' Council.

The major special exhibit is one entitled "Engineering Contributions To Architectural Design, 1851 - 1951", scheduled for Lever House. Various collateral exhibits are also to be shown in various parts of the city, and details on these will be available at the convention.

Many Special Tours

Among the special tours are a boat trip around Manhattan Island the afternoon of Monday, June 23; a buffet supper at Jones Beach; cocktail parties at the Port Authority Building and at the Architectural League; Rockefeller Plaza, and the Morgan Library. At various times during the week there will be tours of points of architectural interest, including the UN headquarters.

The Cloisters, famed branch of the New York Museum in Fort Tryon Park, will be the scene of a reception Tuesday afternoon, June 24. On Wednesday evening, June 25, there is to be a special performance of "The King And I", sponsored by the American Architectural Foundation.

Large Attendance Expected

Up to press time, a total of 20 TSA members had already indicated that they plan to attend the New York convention. A delegation in excess of 30 is expected. Those who have made reservations include: Louis Daeuble, El Paso; Thomas D. Broad, George L. Dahl, Ardrey V. De-Fonds, Terrell Harper, Herbert M. Tatum, Arthur E. Thomas, and Everett V. Welch, all of Dallas; and the following Houston members: Maurice J. Sullivan, national treasurer and F.A.I.A.; James Chillman, Jr. F.A.I.A., Walter T. Rolfe, F.A.I.A.: James C. Morehead, Jr., Stayton Nunn, Arthur E. Nutter, Milton Foy Martin, Herbert Voelcker, Otto Woestemeyer, Baldwin Young, Talbott Wilson, David C. Baer, Others from the remaining Chapters of the TSA are expected to send in reservations before the deadline.

Stayton Nunn Named FAIA For Public Service

Stayton Nunn, president of the Houston Chapter, will be advanced to Fellowship in the AIA in a ceremony during the annual banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City June 15.

Mr. Nunn's Fellowship is being conferred for public service. It is the only such honor being awarded a TSA member at the AIA's 1952 convention, and one of 39 Fellowships announced this year.

Rice Institute Graduate

Born March 18, 1899 in Batesville, Ark., the son of Nathaniel Green Nunn and Lelia Stayton Nunn, Mr. Nunn attended high school at Chillicothe. He received the B.A. degree at Rice Institute in 1921 and the B.S. in architecture a year later.

For six years, from 1922 to 1928, Mr. Nunn was associated with William Ward Watkin, Houston architect and head of the department of architecture at Rice Institute. He began practice in his own name in 1928.

Mr. Nunn was an instructor in architecture at Rice from 1928 until 1942, when he left to serve as a major, and later as a lieutenant-colonel, in the Corps of Engineers. He returned to private practice in 1946.

Mr. Nunn has been coordinating architect for the Houston Independent School District for the past five years. He is a member of the Rotary Club, the Philo-



STAYTON NUNN

sophical Society, and a past president of the architectural alumni of Rice Institute.

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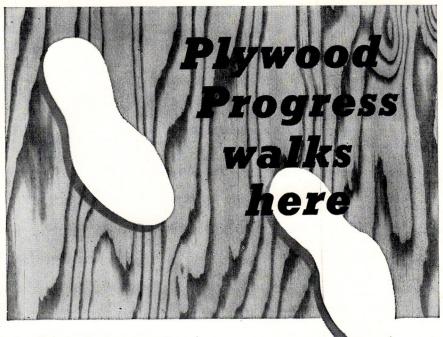
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What Others Are Doing

The Ontario Association of Architects has worked out with TRANE CO. a series of advertisements which tell the industrialist how the architect can serve him. The ads are to appear in TIME and in a number of Canadian trade and professional publications. The OAA also is concentrating attention on the problem of newspapers which omit the name of architects on building projects, principally through writing letters to editors pointing out the omission.

The WISCONSIN ARCHITECT continues a series of articles on "Small Office Practice" and "Medium Office Practice" which have drawn wide attention.

Many problems that lie near the heart of the profession are frankly discussed in the April issue of the BULLETIN published by the Southern California Chapter. The ethical practice of architecture is analyzed by Herman Charles Light ii an unusual article.

COUNCILETTER of the California Council of Architects, AIA believes that bankers and savings and loan executives should become good salesmen for the professional services of architects. The Council is currently polling mortgage bankers who lend building money to appraise (1) their view of architectural service, to the owner and (2) what they might do to recommend such service to prospective owners. A spot check thus far shows that bankers prefer to lend on buildings designed professionally.

West Virginia's CHAPTER CHATTER commends the TSA for its Texas Architects' Week, reprinting comments from MEMO, the AIA newsletter.

Texas A & M Students Work On Remodeling Project At Borger

Students of the architectural department at Texas A & M, under the supervision of Ernest Langford, TSA-AIA, are engaged upon a unique project involving the remodeling of portions of the business district of Borger.

A modernization and design clinic on May 6-7 opened the first phase of the remodeling program, planned to continue five years. The entire project, it is contemplated, will continue through 1957 and will involve the remodeling of six complete business blocks.

Prizes Awarded

Texas A & M students prepared an exhibit for the May 6-7 clinic which included 30 individual store layouts and two three-dimensional table models.

A grand prize award of \$50 went to F. E. Allison, senior architectural student. Other awards made to senior design students by the Borger Chamber of Commerce went to the following Texas A & M men: David Carnahan, first prize, \$35; Milton Bell, second, \$20; Gene Harvey, third, \$15; Alan Rogers, fourth, \$10; James G. Gatton, special design award, \$20; Milton Bell, special award, \$25.

Central Texas Chapter Praised For Creating Fund

The University of Texas, through its retiring president T. S. Painter, has sent a letter to the Central Texas Chapter expressing appreciation for the creation of a \$750 fund to be administered by the Department of Architecture at the university.

The fund was set up early in 1952 after study by a special committee within the Central Texas Chapter. Plans are under way to increase the amount of money in the fund.



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Structural Engineering Conference Draws 250

Over 250 structural engineers and architects met in Austin for the Texas Structural Engineering Conference sponsored by the University of Texas.

Mace H. Bell, assistant to the director of engineering, American Institute of Steel Construction, New York, opened the conference with a discussion of high strength bolts. The high strength bolt, he declared, has in some cases displaced the rivet as a fastener.

In the field of building construction high strength bolts have been used with outstanding success in fourteen tier-type buildings ranging from two to twenty-one stories in height. He added that the bolts themselves cost more than rivets, but the savings in installation expense results in a lower actual total cost.

Welded Connections

Alfred E. Pearson, chief welding engineer, Ingalls Iron Works Company, Birmingham, Ala., presented a paper on "Welded Connections for Bridges and Buildings." He cited the Texas Building now nearing completion in New Orleans as an example of all-welded construction. The structure is 208 feet high above the first floor and is quite slender. All beam to column connections were designed for full continuity and even the secondary members are all welded. The building, he added, contains 650 tons of structural steel, and 13,085 feet of show welding and 12,557 feet of field welding.

Methods of increasing efficiency and reducing costs were discussed by M. E. Eliot, chief engineer, Mosher Steel Company, Dallas, who spoke on "Design Factors Affecting Final Cost of Fabricated Steel." He stressed the need for complete plans which do not require changes, readily available materials, and a clear understanding of the division of work between the fabricator and erector.

Dean Woolrich Is Speaker

At the conference dinner Dean W. R. Woolrich of the University of Texas college of engineering spoke on "Recent Studies of Climate, Human Energy, and Design". In his speech Dean Woolrich predicted that houses utilizing the effects of sun, earth and atmosphere as primary heating and cooling sources will be built in the South and Southwest in the near future.

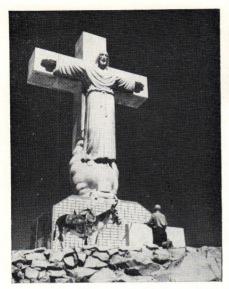
The second day of the conference, devoted to reinforced concrete, was opened by Professor Phil M. Ferguson, chairman of the University's civil engineering department, with a paper on "Why Ultimate Strength Design for Reinforced Concrete?" He recommended ultimate design methods to unify the design basis for all types of members—columns, beams and combinations—to avoid the uneconomical use of unneeded compression steel, and to assist progress in new areas, such as that of prestressed concrete and shell analysis.

Shell Construction Discussed

The next speaker, Alfred L. Parme, of the Structural and Railways Bureau, Portland Cement Association of Chicago, declared: "No other form of construction has been so retarded by lack of design 'know how' as shell construction." He spoke on "A Structural Examination of Barrel Shell Behavior."

D. L. Chaney, regional structural engineer, Portland Cement Association, Atlanta, Ga., closed the conference with a discussion of "Prestressed Concrete—Basic Principles and Structural Characteristics." He demonstrated the principles and characteristics of this new structural theory with a model beam made of balsam wood.

The proceedings of the conference are being published.



This inspiring monument to Christ The King, atop Mount Cristo Rey near El Paso, attracts devout pilgrims from the three states and two nations in sight of the statue. Delegates to the state TSA convention at El Paso October 29-31 will see one of the country's most different and interesting regions.

TA Will Accept Letters To Editor For Publication

The TEXAS ARCHITECT will now publish letters to the editor, or excerpts therefrom, not to exceed 100 words. Letters will be published on a basis of interest to the membership and other readers.

The editorial staff is not responsible for the opinions set forth in letters selected for publication.

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Adopt Resolution Honoring Memory Of Wiley G. Clarkson

The Executive Committee of the Texas Society of Architects, meeting in Dallas on 10 May, 1952, was apprised of the death of our beloved and respected colleague, Wiley G. Clarkson, and the following resolution was adopted unanimously: RESOLVED:

First, that the Texas Society of Architects express deepest sympathies to the family of Wiley G. Clarkson in their bereavement on behalf of the hundreds of architects in Texas who knew and respected him: and

Second, that the Society make a matter of official record its appreciation of Mr. Clarkson's unusual talent and abilities to produce beautiful and useful structures, remarkable for the soundness and practicability of their construction; and

Third, that we record the Society's gratitude for his innumerable contributions, tangible and intangible, to the profession and to the formation and promotion of the Texas Society of Architects. and for the conduct of his work on the highest plane of ethical standards as an outstanding example to all practicing architects

Signed:

Herbert M. Tatum, President Jack Corgan, Secretary

Atomic Blast Effect

Both MIT, in Cambridge, Mass., and UCLA, in Los Angeles at the opposite end of the country, will hold conferences on the effect of atomic blasts and the design of structures for resistance to blast during June. MIT has scheduled a conference on "Building In The Atomic Age" which concludes June 17. UCLA will hold a symposium on Earthquakes and Blast Effects on Structure from June 26-28.

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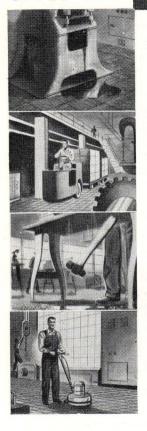
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Publication Board Finds TA In Good Shape

The Publication Board of the TEXAS ARCHITECT, meeting recently at College Station, analyzed financial reports on the first year's operation of the magazine, found it making good progress, and charted a future course under the editorship of David C. Baer, Board chairman.

Present at the College Station session were Mr. Baer, Board members Herbert Tatum, Edward Wilson, Thomas Broad, and Ernest Langford; and Pat Nicholson, representing George Kirksey & Associates, publication relations counselors for the TA and for the Texas Society of Architects.

A financial report distributed by Mr. Baer for the first 12 issues of the TA from May, 1951 through April, 1952: showed income, \$11,770.98; total expense, \$11,655.10, for a net profit of \$115.88.

Mr. Baer pointed out, however, that for the past eight months the TA has been making a net profit each issue, and had overcome an initial deficit of over \$1200. With income limited to advertising which must be sold on a strictly competitive basis, the magazine ends its first year well established.

Other Action Taken

Principal board action taken at the College Station meeting, facilities for which were arranged by Mr. Langford with the cooperation of the Memorial Student Center, included the following:

Editor of the TA, the chairman of the Publication Board, and the Board vice-chairman are to constitute a finance committee for conducting TA business affairs.

The Board is to present three times a year to the TSA directors, and once a year to the membership of the TSA, a report detailed enough to explain satisfactorily the operations of the TA for the period involved.

The Finance Committee is to remit \$75 per month from the TA to the TSA, for the purpose of paying a portion of TSA public relations costs. The objective is to have the entire cost of the public relations program borne by the TA, and this is a step in that direction.

The TA editorial staff will submit to the Publication Board, with a copy to the TSA directors, an annual budget based on an average of 24 pages per issue, this budget subject to change according to judgment of the editor.

The newsletter now being enclosed with the TA was approved, and limited to editorial material only. A Letter To The Editor column was approved. Letter voting will be allowed in emergencies or when meetings of the Publication Board cannot be conveniently held.

(Continued on Page 19)



Dallas Chapter Draws Attention With TV Series

The Dallas Chapter continues to draw state and nationwide attention with its Sunday television show, "So You Want to Build," over WFAA-TV. Launched at a time when television is growing by leaps and bounds, the 30-minute show is bearing increasing dividends as it explains the role of the architect to the public.

Good Audience Reception

"So You Want To Build", one of the first such shows in the nation, revolves about a young couple planning to construct their home. It has had good audience reception from the beginning.

A by-product was the May 11 show "State Your Case", on which members of the Dallas Chapter were invited by the sponsor, the First National Bank of Dallas, to discuss the merits of contemporary and conventional homes.

Allen Named Official, Director By Featherlite

Jack Frost, president of The Featherlite Corporation, has announced the appointment of Harvey Hicks Allen as vice-president and director.

The firm's plant at Strawn, Texas, produces the expanded shale lightweight aggregate being used in the new Republic National Bank building in Dallas, which will be the tallest skyscraper in Texas.

Allen is a former assistant to the State highway engineer. He served as a lieutenant colonel in the U. S. Army Engineers and is a former city manager of Corpus Christi.

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News of the Chapters

Fort Worth—A seminar on Texas softwoods and hardwoods was held recently by the Chapter. Major activities have been concerned with the annual Craftsmanship Award. The Chapter has passed a resolution in favor of a standard sign for all TSA members. Corporate members have signed a petition supporting Julian Berla as secretary of the AIA.

Central Texas—Candidates for the State Senate from the Austin district were present at the May meeting. The Chapter supports a resolution from the Visual Aids Committee of the AIA seeking funds for a sound movie on the practice of architecture. Members of the TSA board will be luncheon guests of the Chapter at the next board meeting in Austin. The Chapter turned down a resolution to support Julian Berla as secretary of the AIA, recommending instead an uninstructed delegation to the national convention.

Dallas—The May program was charge of George Shupee, professor of architecture at Arlington State College, and a group of his students. Mr. Shupee discussed the two-year course offered at ASC, and its relationship to the regular five-year course. The executive committee has under consideration the matter of professors of architecture competing with architects in private practice for school commissions. Members of the Chapter were invited to attend the Craftsmanship Award ceremony held by the Fort Worth Chapter. New members include: J. S. Todd, Harley Tracy, Roland Miranda, E. O. Oglesby, J. L. Downing, and E. C. Davis.

Houston—The Rice Institute student chapter was host for the May dinner

meeting on the Institute campus. On May 22, the Texas Forest Service held a "dutch treat" dinner for architects.

"New Directions", an exhibition of new trends in domestic architecture sponsored by the Contemporary Arts Association in Houston, is cited in a recent issue of MEMO, the AIA newsletter.

Publication Board

(Continued from Page 17)

Mr. Nicholson was asked to discuss the current status of the TA, based on the observations of his firm and on an analysis of questionnaires returned by TSA members asked to give their opinion of the magazine. He said that the membership is generally well satisfied with the TA, including content and format. The questionnaire indicates, however, the desire for a stronger editorial policy; the exclusion of technical articles which can be found elsewhere; and more news of individual Chapters. He said that a stronger editorial policy has been adopted. He urged that each Chapter consider an annual event such as honor awards, a tour of outstanding architectural accomplishments during the year, etc. as a means of stimulating activity and creating worthwhile news. He recommended articles stressing architectural activities for the public and other programs for increasing interest and readership.

7900 Free Copies

Mr. Nicholson pointed out that each Chapter should realize that the TA is placing 7900 copies per month in the hands of a selected group of readers, without any cost to the Society, and urged that members support the magazine in its attempts to hold and increase advertising contracts.

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Executive Committee

(Continued from Page 7) type of contract deviating from the standard AIA contract.

Mr. Wilson was requested to invite the president of the AIA to address the TSA.

Incidental business: President Tatum will request replies from all Chapters before action is taken on the standard sign. Mr. Tatum was instructed to request that Stayton Nunn of Houston accept the chairmanship of the Professional Practice Committee. He was also instructed to draft the pamphlet "How To Select The Architect" for later consideration by the executive board. The School Plant Study Committee was approved and commended for its work with the State Education Agency.



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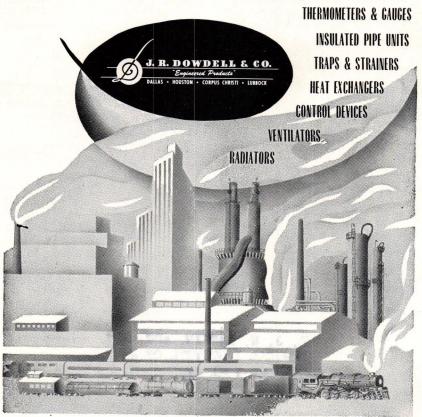
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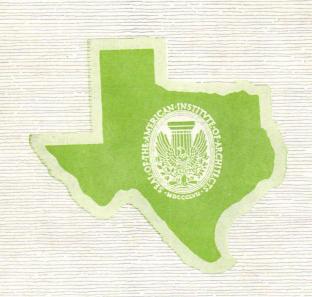
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